

November 2001

Dear Colleague:

The Chemical & Transport Systems Division (CTS) in the Engineering Directorate at the National Science Foundation (NSF) announces a nationwide search for engineering professionals to fill the Program Director positions for the following programs:

Fluid Dynamics and Hydraulics
Kinetics, Catalysis and Molecular Processes.

These positions are open until filled, but it is expected that current candidates will be identified by January 31, 2002, and scheduled to interview shortly thereafter with appointments to begin in August. While demonstrated disciplinary expertise is expected for each position, an equally important focus of the search is to assemble a scholarly, open-minded, diverse, and intellectually integrated group to join the present team to share CTS Division responsibilities within NSF's overall mission: to support merit-reviewed education and research activities that enable the Nation to excel in all areas of Engineering, Science and Technology.

NSF Program Directors are responsible for providing stewardship of NSF investments in integrated research and education activities in a disciplinary area, and in interdisciplinary initiatives, within the context of the agency vision, mission, and goals and within the framework of guiding legislation as well as agency policies and resources. A Ph.D. or equivalent professional experience; a successful research and education career in academe, industry, or government; and substantial management expertise are essential. All appointees are expected to function both within specific program boundaries as well as in a team mode, contributing to and coordinating with virtual organizations in the Directorate, across the Foundation, and with other Federal and State government agencies and private-sector organizations as necessary. Periodic appointments to leadership of interdivisional, interdirectorate, and interagency programs may be made. We are particularly interested in attracting women and under-represented minority candidates to these positions.

Appointment may be on a temporary basis in the Federal Service, by temporary assignment as a Visiting Scientist/Engineer on leave of absence from a research and/or education institution, by temporary assignment under provisions of the Intergovernmental Personnel Assignment (IPA) Act, or on a permanent basis. The Federal salary currently ranges up to \$116,414 for a Program Director position. The salary for these appointments will be based on the level of responsibilities, the candidate's present salary, and related factors. IPA assignees from academe retain their university salary and benefits, with cost sharing negotiated between the Foundation and the home institution.

In addition most rotator appointee can arrange to make periodic, expense-paid research-supervision visits to their home institutions, and their appointments may also provide some cost-of-living allowances. Temporary appointments are usually expected to last for two years.

Some of the advantages of working as a Program Director are the opportunity to interact extensively with the community of researchers and educators, to gain an overview of current opportunities and needs, and to influence the Federal investment and the direction of national activities such that they might have broad impact.

In addition to addressing current needs, we strive to develop a candidate pool for future consideration as subsequent openings at Program Director level become available in CTS. These openings, as well as those in other ENG divisions, are detailed and updated regularly on the NSF website: <http://www.eng.nsf.gov/JobOpportunities/>. We ask your assistance in conveying this information to those of your colleagues who, in your judgment, have the requisite qualifications and a compelling interest in the issues facing engineering education and research, who would make a strong contribution to the work of the Division, and who could meet the stimulating challenges of an appointment with the Foundation.

Inquires, applications, and nominations may be directed to any current CTS Program Director or to either of us. Preliminary applications may take the form of a letter of interest accompanied by a resume.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Thomas W. Chapman, Acting Director
CTS Division, Room 525
CTS Phone: (703) 292-8370
FAX: (703) 292-9054
e-mail: tchapman@nsf.gov

Mike Roco, Senior Advisor and
Member, Search Committee, Room 525
Phone: (703) 292-8371
Fax: (703) 292-9054
e-mail: mroco@nsf.gov